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RADIO THE BELEM ARMY AIR BASE AND TELL THEM TO SEND A RESCUE HELICOPTER. AND YOU, LADIES AND CENTREMEN WILL HAVE TO WAIN FOR WILL BE THE CHLY ONE TO RETURN ON THE FIRST TRIP... I AND THE PROFESSOR'S LITTLE BLACK BAG /*













































































































































"DEATH MARKS A BULLET"

Evelyn Burdick was angry as she sat at the breakfast table and faced her husband. She poured him a second cup of coffee and buttered a slice of toast. Then she expressed her thoughts in no uncertain words.

"Your uncle went to the doctor yesterday for a physical check-up. He is in perfect health. In fact, he might even outlive us. Every time you ask him about being made a partner in the business, he shrugs it off. You gave up a good job at the gas station back home to come here."

Frank Burdick was used to his wife when she became angry. No use of reminding her that he had been fired from every job he held during the last five years. And then Uncle Leo Burdick had asked them both to come to Lentenville.

"We got a roof over our heads and money in our pockets. What more can we ask?," he replied gently to his wife. "After all, we are his only living heirs."

"That sport store of his is a gold mine,"

"Do you realize he made more than fivehundred dallars last week? I never knew there was so much money in fishing tackle, worms, guns and bullets. Now if that store were only ours."

"It will be ours when Uncle Leo dies," pointed out Frank to his wife. "He's at least sixty-five and can't live forever."

"We could sort of help him die," replied Evelyn grimly, as she realized she would have to make things very clear to her sort of dumb husband. "I have been thinking of various ways in which we could make it look like an accident."

Slowly Frank replaced his half empty cup of coffee on the saucer. No need of asking whether or not his wife was serious about killing Uncle Leo. She meant what she said. And he knew there would be no rest until she got her way.

"You only read about those perfect crimes



in stories," he half protested. "We couldn't get away with it."

"You bet we could," she reforted. "What's the matter with you? Don't you understand that every unsolved murder has to be a perfect crime? I have met Sheriff Sam Luke. He's so old and feeble he just totters along. I'll show you how easy it is to kill your Uncle Leo and make it look like an accident. At low tide, the end of the pier is forty feet above the rocks. Suppose you just weekened one of the pilings? Everyone knows how old and rickety that bridge is. In fact, you yourself heerd Sheriff Sam Luke advise your uncle to have the pier fixed. By Friday of this week we should be mourning for the late Leo Burdick."

Thursday morning it was low tide. As was his habit, Uncle teo walked to the end of the pier to check the bait boxes. He would count them to be certain none were missing. He was a bald-headed, toothless old man who always had a wide grin on his face. He limped slowly to the end of the pier. He moved some of the bait boxes, and then it happened! The last piling collapsed, and part of the pier went hurtling down. Uncle teo found himself hanging precariously on a moving piece of timber.

"Help! Help!," he shouted vigorously at the top of his voice. "I'm falling! Save me!"

The driver of a delivery truck heard the shouts for help. He stopped his car, and walk-ed half way down the pier. Suddenly he felt the boards underneath him begin to give way. He then retreated backwards.

"Hold on," he shouted back. "I'll get the boys from the volunteer fire department. They have a life net. We'll go below on the rocks and catch you."

Five minutes later a badly shaken up Uncle Leo got out of the life net. His nephew Frank

had been to the railroad station to pick up a package and returned just in time to see the crowd

"I warned your uncle to have that pier fixed. Must be at least thirty years old. Won't listen to me. Almost broke his neck. The old boy sure has a lot of strenath in those fingers of his to hold on so long."

Uncle Leo was resting comfortably in bed Downstairs, seated at the table, were Frank and

his wife.

"It almost worked." admitted Evelyn "Not a person suspected we had planned it. It was clever the way you forced the piling to the side. I have been thinking of an entirely different way to kill him

"Must we?," protested Frank weakly, "Can't we let well enough alone. I'm a bit scared." "Don't be chicken-hearted," scolded his

wife, "We'll take a drive tonight, and I'll have all details worked out by that time."

There was a blood moon in the sky, as though it were an evil omen. Frank had parked his car on the side of Uplift Mountain. He lit a cigarette and his hand trembled. He knew this time he would have to kill his Uncle Leo and not fail.

"Got it all figured out," began Evelyn. "Nothing can go wrong this time. Your uncle burns all empty boxes down on the rocks. He dumps the stuff in that big empty oil drum and lights a fire. Slip about a dozen .38 cartridges in a box when you carry the stuff out to the fire. Pick a dark cloudy night, when there'll be no moon to reflect any light. Then shoot him with a .38 revolver. Use exactly four bullets. You will also have four empty shells in that can. Shoot off the gun in the woods so you'll have those four empty shells. You can't find a flaw with that idea.

Frank went over it in his mind. He couldn't find a weak spot in it. He sort of shook his head as though agreeing with his wife.

"There will be an autopsy. All it can show is

the four slugs. Then the business will be mine." 'Ours." corrected his wife.

All the rowboats had been taken over to the cove, where they were kept during the night. Frank had put in a hard day. Uncle Leo

was very well pleased.

"Next year I am going to buy a launch. We'll take people out to the other side of Mander's Island, Good fishing there, Business is fine. You have been a good help to me, Frank, Some day you will be a partner. Mighty soon this will be your business."

At nine-thirty there was a slight fog and no moon in the sky. Uncle Leo began to take out the empty paper boxes to burn them. Frank took four empty cartridge boxes he had been secretly saving. He placed a dozen live cartridges in the bottom box. In the top box he

placed the empty shells. He walked down to the rocks and threw them into the can. It was something like a ritual when Uncle Lea would start the fire. Frank walked about three yards in back of his uncle and watched the flames lick up towards the sky. Suddenly there was an explosion. At the same time Frank came up with the revolver and aimed it directly at his uncle who turned around.

"Don't . . .," was the one and only word to escape Uncle Leo's lips. It was also his last word on this earth. Frank fired four shots in quick succession. Then he quickly ran to the side of the rocks and moved one aside. He dropped the gun down into a hole he had prepared.

"Mighty terrible thing happened to your Uncle Leo," said Sheriff Sam Luke, "Knew him for quarter of a century. Fine man with a big heart. He liked you a lot. He must have been gettin' careless, not checkin' on boxes.

"Can I ao home to my wife, now?" asked Frank. "You have my statement about how the

accident happened."

"Of course," replied the sheriff in a friendly manner. "If there's anything more I want, I'll see you in the morning.

Frank was nervous at the breakfast table His hand shook so that the coffee spilled from his cup.

"Get yourself together," advised his wife, "It was a perfect job, and they will never find out."

Just then the door bell rang. Evelyn looked at her husband.

"Pull yourself together," she said. "I'll see who it is at this early time of the morning. Sheriff Sam Luke, Dr. Howard Jones, the

coroner, and a stranger entered, and the law officer began speaking at once

"Mighty slick trick you thought you figured out to kill your Uncle Leo. Dr. Jones took out the bullets from your uncle's body. Man with me is Burt Langly, a ballistic expert from the city. You must have shot your uncle with a .38 revolver which you then hid. Under the microscope we saw the rifling marks from the gun barrel. If your Uncle Leo had been killed by exploding bullets they would have no rifling marks on them. That's where you slipped up. Bet you thought you had figured out the perfect crime."

They gave them both the chair: for the verdict was murder in the first degree, and the jury brought in no recommendation for mercy. "Funny thing about how greedy people can

be," remarked the sheriff to Dr. Jones after the trial. "Leo had gone to his attorney and drawn up the partnership papers as a surprise. Had Frank waited, he would have been a partner the next day."

The End

THERE WAS ALMOST \$25,000 IN CASH LOCKED AWAY IN THE SAFE ... AND IT WAS MOMEY ARMOLO FACTOR WANTED DESPERTELY AS CASHIER OF THE FIRM HE INTEMPED TO ROB, HE WAS IN A SPLENDID POSITION TO BET AWAY WITH THE CRIME — EXCEPT THAT HELEFT HIMSELF WITH...



















TRY TO LOUSE UP A PERFECT SCHEME, WILL YOU? IF YOU HADN'T POKED YOUR NOSE IN THE WOULD VIE BEEN HURT! SUIT NOW YOU'RE GONN A DIE BY YOUR OWN GUN.



POLICE SIREN ... COMING CLOSER!
THE OLD DEVIL MUST SET TURNED
SPOTTED ME HERE IN THE OFFICE!
THE FRONT POOR'LL BE CUT OFF
IN A MINUTE!



NOT EVEN TIME ENDUGH FOR METO GET OUR THIS BACK WINDOW, I GET OUR THIS BACK WINDOW, I A GHOST HAS I A GLOST LIKE THE THE WATCHMAN, MG COLLO MAKE HIS GETAWAY BEFORE THE COPS SURROUND THE PLACE.



NO TIME TO LOSE., GOT TO BREAK THE VINDOW SO IT-LL LOOK AS IF THE THIRE SWAMASHED THE WINDOW AND ESCAPED INTO THE ALLEY. THEN VANISH. THE WORLD TH







"" AND WHEN I LOOVED UP THIS HOODILUM WAS SHOVING THE WATCHMAN INTO THE ROOM," HE MADE ME OPEN HIM INTO THE SCHIEFLE HE FIRED TWICE." GOT ME IN TO MAN "GUEST THE SCHIEFLE HE FIRED TWICE." GOT ME IN TO MAN "GUEST THE SCHIEFLE HE FIRED TWICE." GOT ME IN TO MAN "GUEST THE SCHIEFLE HE FIRED TWICE." GOT ME IN TO MAN "GUEST THE SCHIEFLE HE FIRED TWICE." GOT ME IN TO MAN "GUEST THE FIRED TWICE." GOT ME IN TO MAN "GUEST THE FIRED TWICE." GOT ME IN TO MAN "GUEST THE FIRED TWICE." GOT ME IN TO MAN "GUEST THE FIRED TWICE."











INTERRUPTED TAKEOFF!









































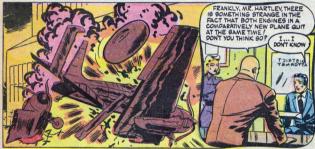


THERE IS A CRUCIAL MOMENT IN THE TAKE-OFF OF ANY AIRPLANE. THAT MOMENT WHEN IT IS BEYOND THE END OF THE RUNWAY WITH NO CHANCE OF COMING BACK DOWN IN CASE OF ENGINE FAILURE ... AND WITHOUT AS YET HAVING GAINED ENOUGH ALTITUDE TO TURN AND RETURN TO THE FIELD. AT THIS POINT, THE PILOT CAN DO NO-PLANE DOWN INTO WHATEVER HAPPENS TO BE IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF HIM ...



















S) UDON DISCOVERY OF THIS, MY MEN LOOKED THE TANKS OVER CAREFULLY/ UNDER THE CAP OF THE LEFT WING TANK THEY FOUND THIS... IT'S A BIT OF FINGER-MAIL DOUBH! DO YOU THINK THAT, AFTER MID AND AND THE MOUTH OBE THE KIND YOU WEAR, MES BLAIR?







NO BUTS "ABOUT IT! YOU'RE A SMART COP AND ALL THAT, BUT I'LL BREAK YOU OF SHOVING PEOPLE AROUND IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO! YOU'RE SUSPENDED FOR NINETY DAYS... LEAVE YOUR GUN AND SHIELD WITH THE DESK SERGEANT ON YOUR WAY



















SEEING THE GUNMAN COVERING O'HARA FROM OUT-SIDE, THE PATROLMAN ENTERS, GUN IN HAND, BUT IN THE DIM LIGHT INSIDE THE BAR, FAILS TO NOTICE THE SECOND THUS FOR A MOMENT...















NOT A BAD NOT BAD AT ALL ! AND WHEN THAT NEW COMMISSIONER GETS THE REPORT ON THIS ONE; I'L BET HE PECIDES THE FORCE CAN STILL USE A MAN WHAT CAN THICOALS FOR ONE ON THE NOUSE... WHAT'D YOU SAY, TIM?













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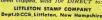
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